

CLASSIC FABLES

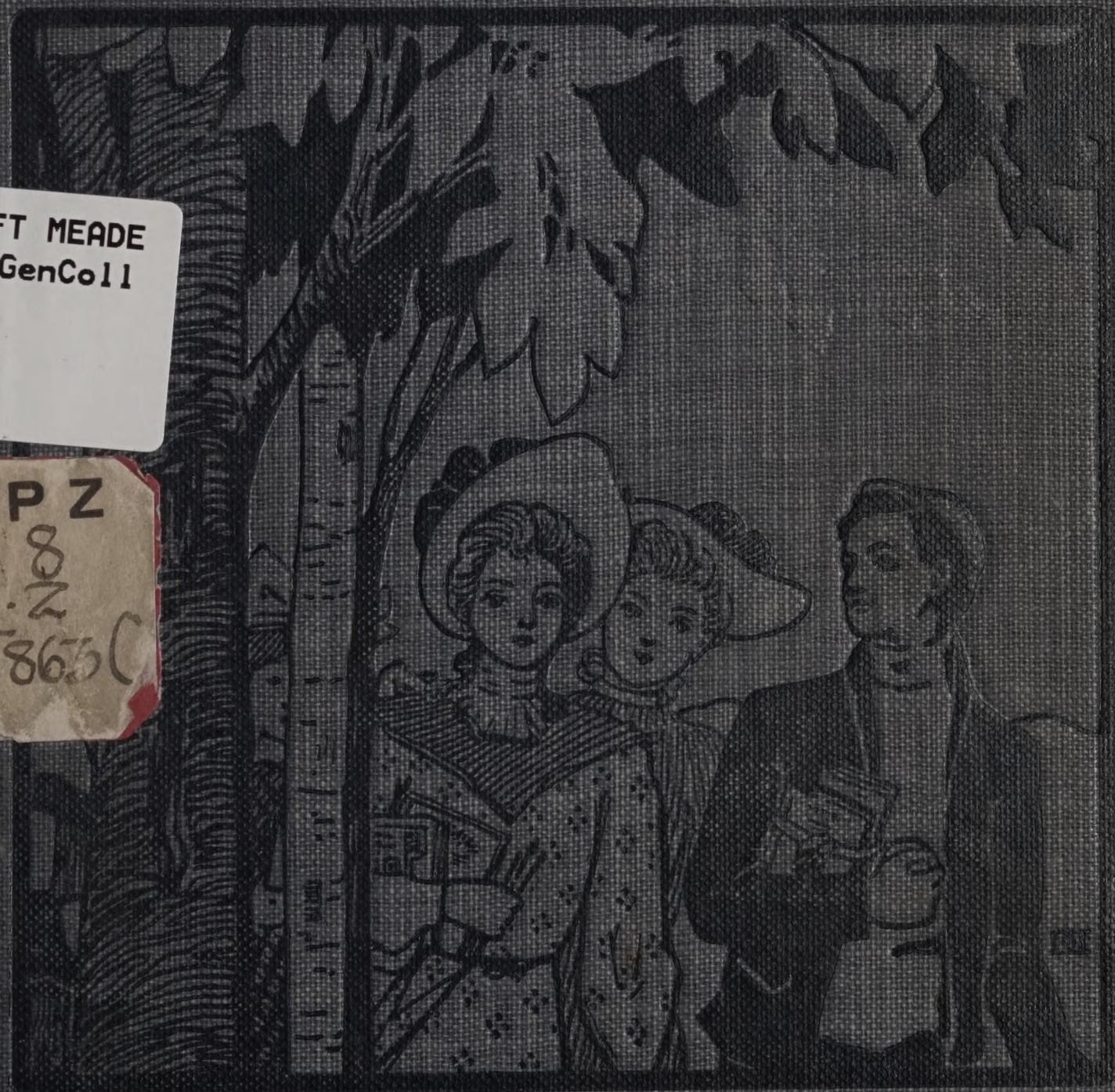
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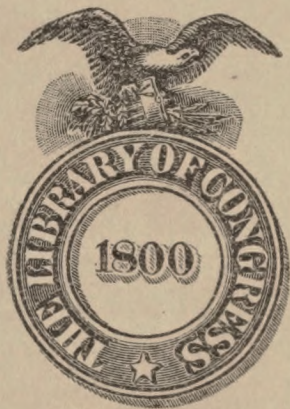
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Book 2

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GRADED SUPPLEMENTARY READING SERIES

CLASSIC FABLES

SELECTED AND EDITED

FOR PRIMARY GRADES

BY

EDNA HENRY LEE TURPIN



NEW YORK

MAYNARD, MERRILL, & CO.

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TO THE TEACHER

THIS book of fables fulfills two essentials for primary reading books,—it gives much reading matter with a small vocabulary, and that reading matter is classic literature. It will commend itself especially to intelligent, progressive teachers, who think that from the first children should read the best literature.

This volume comprises the best known of the classic fables. These fables are so frequently alluded to in conversation and in literature that every well-educated person should be familiar with them. To children they appeal as fascinating stories of the animal world. Men and women find under their merry guise shrewd truths, the embodied wisdom of centuries.

For generations most of these fables were attributed to Æsop, a Phrygian slave, who lived in the sixth century before Christ. Some may have been composed by him; many undoubtedly belong to that period; others are of much later date,—one or two of the best belonging to the seventeenth-century French of La Fontaine. The best authorities have been consulted, and, for the teacher's satisfaction, the Æsopian fables are indicated whenever possible.

It is assumed that children who read this book have already acquired a vocabulary of about four hundred words. This vocabulary is printed on pages 121–123 for drill and reference. There are fewer than three new words to the page, and these new words—three to six in each fable—are found in the word list on pages 124–127.

The illustrations in this book are drawn by Percy J. Billingham and are reproduced from "A Hundred Fables of Æsop" by business arrangement with the publisher, Mr. John Lane. Mr. Billingham is also the illustrator of "A Hundred Fables of La Fontaine" and "A Hundred Anecdotes of Animals," both published by Mr. John Lane.

CLASSIC FABLES

1. The Sun and the North Wind

“How strong I am!” said the North Wind to the Sun. “I am stronger than you are.”

“No,” said the Sun, “I am the stronger.”

“You cannot make that great tree bend before you,” said the Wind. “I can do that. See it bend!”

“And hear its leaves!” said the¹⁰ Sun. “They say, ‘Thank you, great Sun. Your light and heat give us life.’”

“I can blow away those leaves,”

said the Wind. "I can blow the tree up by the roots."

"But you cannot make it grow," said the Sun. "It is I who do that."

5 The Wind could do great things. So could the Sun. Which of the two was the stronger?

Just then a man came by. The morning was cool, and he had on
10 a cloak.

"I see a way to end our quarrel," said the Sun. "The one which can make that man take off his cloak is the stronger. You may begin."

15 The North Wind began to blow. He blew and blew as hard as he could. But the more he blew, the more the man held his cloak.

At last the Wind had to give up.
20 "Now let me try," said the Sun. He came out from behind a

cloud, shining as bright as he could. Soon the man found his cloak too warm. He took it off.

So the Sun showed that gentle ways are better than rough ones. 5

2. The Cat and the Birds

AN old cat heard that the birds in a bird house were ill.

“Now is the time,” she said to herself, “for me to get a bird to eat.” 10

So she put on a tall hat. She took a cane in one paw and a box of medicine in the other.

Then she went to the bird house and knocked at the door. 15

“Who is there?” asked the birds.

“It is I, the doctor,” said the cat, in a rough voice. “I heard that you are ill. So I have come to see

you. I bring some medicine to make you well."

"Your words are kind," said an old bird, "but we see your paws. 5 They are not those of a friend, and we do not wish to take medicine from them. We are more likely to get well without your help than with it."

3. The Boys and the Frogs

10 ONE day some boys went down to a pond.

"Croak! croak!" they heard.

They looked to see what was saying "croak." It was some frogs.

15 When they saw the boys, the frogs jumped into the water.

"Let us throw stones at them," said one of the boys.

So they got some stones. When-

ever a frog put his head above the water, they threw a stone at him. More than one poor frog was killed.

“Cro-ak ! cro-ak !” cried the frogs. “Boys, boys ! Please do not 5 throw stones at us.”

“We do not wish to hurt you,” said the boys. “We are only playing.”

“It may be play to you,” said an 10 old frog. “But it is death to us.”

4. The Blind Man and the Lame Man

A BLIND man was going down a road. As he could not see, he was feeling his way with a cane.

Just then a lame man came hob- 15 bling by.

“You do not go very fast, friend,” he said.

“No,” said the poor blind man.

“I am blind. I am trying to go to town, but it is hard work. I cannot find the way.”

“I, too, am trying to go to town,”
5 said the lame man. “But I am lame. It is hard for me to hobble down the road.”

“Can we not help each other?”
asked the blind man. “I will carry
10 you if you will tell me which way to go.”

“Good!” said the lame man. “I will be eyes for you if you will be feet for me.”

15 “Up with you, then,” said the blind man.

He took the lame man on his back.

By helping each other, they came
20 safe to town.

5. The Cock and the Pearl

A HUNGRY cock was one day looking for food. He found something which he thought was a grain of corn.

“Here is food at last,” he cried. ⁵

But what he had found was not corn. It was a pearl, large and beautiful. The cock let it fall to the ground.

“That is a pretty pearl,” he said. ¹⁰

“A man would like to have it. But it is of no use to me. One good grain of corn is worth more to me than all the pearls on earth.”

6. Belling the Cat

ONCE upon a time some mice ¹⁵ lived in great fear of a cat. If they came from their holes, her paws were upon them.



THE · COCK AND THE · JEWEL.

One night all the mice met together. They wished to plan some way to keep the cat from catching them.

“We want something to tell us ⁵ when she is coming,” said one of the mice. “Her paws are so soft that we cannot hear her.”

Up rose a young mouse.

“Let us hang a bell round her ¹⁰ neck,” he said. “It will tell us when she is coming. Then we can run and hide.”

“Good, good, good!” said the other mice. Some of the young ¹⁵ ones ran to find a bell.

But an old mouse said, “The plan is good. But who will carry it out? Who will hang the bell round the cat’s neck?” 20

Not a mouse had a word to say.

Not one of them all would do it.
So to this day the cat goes without a bell.

7. The Dove and the Bee

ONE day a bee fell into the water.
5 She could not fly out, and she did not know how to swim.

Poor little bee! Was she to be drowned? No. Help was at hand.

10 A dove saw her fall. He threw a leaf to her in the water.

The bee got upon the leaf and came safe to land.

“Thank you, kind dove, for help-
15 ing me,” she said.

Hear how the bee in turn helped the bird.

One day the dove was making his nest. He flew here and there

to get leaves and hay. He did not see a boy coming.

“That bird will be good to eat,” said the boy to himself. “I will kill it.” And he took aim at the ⁵ dove.

The little bee saw the danger of her friend. Buzz, buzz! she flew to help.

Just as the boy took aim, she ¹⁰ stung him. He jumped and missed his aim.

Thanks to the bee, the kind dove was safe.

8. The Dog in the Manger

A CROSS dog got into a manger ¹⁵ full of hay. There he lay snarling at all who came near.

After a while an ox came in. He had been hard at work all the

morning. Now he wished to eat the hay. It had been put in the manger for him.

“Bow-wow! bow-wow-wow!”
5 said the cross dog. He snarled and would not let the ox come near.

“Are you hungry?” asked the ox. “Are you going to eat that hay?”

10 “No, I am not hungry,” snarled the dog. “When I am, I do not eat hay. But you shall not have it.”

“What a cross, selfish dog you are!” said the ox. “You cannot
15 eat the hay. Yet you will not let those eat it who can.”

9. The Dove, the Woodpecker, and the Peacock

ONCE upon a time a dove and a woodpecker went to see a peacock.

“How vain the peacock is!” said

the woodpecker when they came away. "I do not see why he is so vain. His voice is not pleasant and his feet are not pretty."

"I did not think of his feet and ⁵ his voice," said the gentle dove. "I was looking at his feathers. I was watching them shine with many colors. How beautiful they are!"

10. The Ant and the Grasshopper

ONE summer day a grasshopper ¹⁰ met an ant. She was carrying food to her nest.

"Good day, friend ant," said the grasshopper. "Why are you at work this pleasant day? I have ¹⁵ been dancing and singing all day long. Will you not come and play with me?"

"No, thank you," said the ant.

“I must lay up food for winter. If you play all summer, what will you do when winter comes?”

“Oh, winter is still far off,” said
5 the grasshopper.

Away he went, singing and dancing.

Summer and fall passed. Winter came. There was an end to the
10 work of the ant and to the play of the grasshopper. The ant had her house full of food. The poor grasshopper had nothing to eat.

He went to her home.

15 “Please, dear ant,” he said, “give me something to eat.”

“No,” said the ant, “I have no food to spare. You sang all summer when I was at work. Now
20 you may go and dance.”

Those who do not work when

times are good must want when times are bad.

11. Sour Grapes

A HUNGRY fox came to a grape-vine growing round a tree. On it were beautiful ripe grapes. 5

“How good they look!” said the fox. “I will have some.”

Up he jumped. But he could not reach one grape. Again and again he jumped. It was all in 10 vain.

There hung the grapes but not for him. Jump as he would, not one could he reach.

At last he went away. 15

“I will not have those grapes,” he said. “I am sure they are sour. I’ll leave them for the greedy birds to eat.”



THE FOX AND THE GRAPES.

12. The Man and the Little Fish

A MAN threw his net into a river. When he drew it out, it held only one fish. That one was very small.

The little fish began to beg for ⁵ its life.

“Please let me go,” it said to the man. “I am too small to be worth much now. Maybe you will catch me when I am large.¹⁰ How much more I will be worth to you then!”

But the man said: “Oh, no! I will not let you go. True, you are small. But you are better¹⁵ than nothing. You might grow wise and not come again into my net. A small fish in my net is worth more than a large one in the river.”

13. One Good Trick

ONCE a cat and a fox were talking together.

“I am a great hunter,” said the fox.

5 “So I hear,” said the cat. “They say, too, that men sometimes hunt you. What do you do when they run you with their dogs?”

10 “Oh, it is not hard for me to get away,” said the fox. “Why, I have more than a hundred tricks. If one will not do, I try another. How many tricks do you know, Mrs. Pussy Cat?”

15 “One,” said the cat. “I know only one. If that fails, I am a lost cat.”

“Poor Mrs. Pussy!” said the fox. “I should like to teach you



THE CAT AND THE FOX.

some of my tricks, but that would not do. You know, we must each look out for himself."

Just then the cry of the hunters
5 was heard. Up came the dogs.

The cat ran up a tree. There she sat safe where the dogs could not reach her. This was her one trick.

10 From the tree she watched the fox. He ran this way and that way. He turned and turned again. He tried one trick after another, but all in vain. He was caught
15 and killed at last.

"Oh," said the cat. "I see it is better to know one good trick than a hundred poor ones."

14. The Lion and the Mouse

ONE summer day a lion was sleeping in his den. He was waked by a mouse which ran over his paw. The great beast caught it and was going to kill it.

5

“Do not kill me, Mr. Lion,” begged the poor little mouse. “Spare my life. Some day I may do you a good turn.”

The old lion laughed.

10

“You do me a good turn!” he said. “What can a little mouse ever do for a great lion? But go, I will spare your life.”

“Thank you,” said the mouse.

15

Away she ran.

Not long after this, the lion ran into a net which had been set by some hunters. He tried to get

away, but in vain. He roared and roared.

The other beasts said, "The lion is caught in the net," and went
5 their ways.

But one friend came to his help. It was the mouse that he had spared.

Without a word she set to work
10 with her sharp teeth, and cut a rope in two. Then she cut another and another. At last the lion was free.

"Thank you, little friend," said
15 the great beast. "You have saved my life."

"Oh," said the mouse, "you spared my life and I was glad to help you. You laughed when I
20 said, 'Some day I may do you a good turn.' Now you see that,



THE LION AND THE MOUSE.

after all, a little mouse may help a great lion. No friend is too small to be of use."

15. The Dog that lost his Supper

A DOG was carrying home a
5 piece of meat in his mouth. On the way he came to a river.

He looked down into the water. There he saw himself, as in a looking-glass.

10 But he did not know that it was himself. He thought that it was another dog with another piece of meat.

"I will take it from him. Then
15 what a fine supper I shall have!" thought this greedy dog.

So he snapped at the meat in the water.

When he opened his mouth, out

fell his piece of meat. Down, down it went, deep into the river.

Now he could not see in the water the dog with the meat. And he himself had lost his supper. 5

16. The Boy who cried "Wolf!"

ONCE a boy was put to take care of some sheep. He was to keep them in the field and not let the wolf get them.

Some men were at work not far 10 off.

"If you see the wolf coming," they said, "call as loud as you can. We will come and kill it."

The boy watched the sheep some 15 time. No wolf came.

One day he said to himself, "I will have some fun. I will make

the men think that the wolf is here.
How they will run !”

So he called out, “ Wolf! wolf!”
as loud as he could.

5 The men heard him and they all
ran to the field.

“ Where is the wolf?” they
asked.

The boy laughed and said, “ The
10 wolf has not been here. I called
for fun.”

It was no fun for the men. They
went quarreling back to their
work.

15 The next day the boy called,
“ Wolf, wolf!” as before.

Some, but not all, of the men
went to his help. They found the
sheep eating grass and the little
20 lambs playing about.

The boy was sitting under a tree.

"Oh!" he said, laughing, "I called 'wolf' just for fun."

The next day he cried again, "Wolf! wolf!"

This time only one or two of the ⁵ men went to the field. As before, no wolf was there.

But at last the wolf did come.

"Wolf! wolf!" called the boy as loud as he could. "Help! help! ¹⁰ he has my lamb, my dear little lamb. The wolf, the wolf!"

But no one came to his help. The men heard him call. But they said, "He is only in fun," and went ¹⁵ on with their work.

The boy had called "wolf" too often when there was no wolf.

Who can believe a boy who does not tell the truth?

17. The Kid upon the Rock

A LITTLE kid was once standing upon a high rock. It saw a wolf passing below. It began to abuse him as loud as it could.

5 The wolf looked up and said, "Silly thing! Say what you please up there. I know that you would not talk so if you were down here. It is not you who abuses me, but
10 the rock upon which you stand."

18. The Treasure in the Vineyard

THERE was once a man who was very ill.

He had three sons. They were young, and their father feared they
15 would not work as he had done.

So he called them to him.

"My sons," he said, "I have not

long to live. I am leaving you three all my treasure. It is in the vineyard."

He said no more.

His sons thought, "He has put ⁵ gold and other treasures in the vineyard."

After his death, they set to work with spades and plows. Over and over again, they plowed and spaded ¹⁰ the vineyard.

They found no gold nor treasures of any kind. But, thanks to their work, the vineyard had more grapes that year than ever before. 15

It made up to them for all their hard work.

This was their father's treasure.

19. The Kid and the Wolf

A LITTLE kid had strayed from its mother.

Now it was trying to find its way home.

5 Out in the woods it met a wolf — a great hungry wolf. He had sharp teeth and big, strong paws.

“I am going to eat you,” he said to the kid. “Have you anything
10 to say before I do?”

“I know that it is no use to beg for my life,” said the poor kid. “But I have one thing to ask. I have heard that you make good
15 music. Before you eat me, will you play me one tune? I have had many a dance in my little life. Let me have one more.”

“You shall have one tune,” said

the wolf. "Then I will have my dinner."

So he played a tune. The kid danced his best. After a while the wolf stopped.

5

"Now it is dinner time," he said.

"One more tune — only one more," said the little kid. "You play so well, so very well. I could dance all day to such music."

10

So the wolf played again, and again the kid danced. By this time the dogs heard the music. They came to see what was going on.

The wolf had to run away as fast¹⁵ as he could go. Home went the little kid to its mother.

"I have lost my dinner," said the wolf, "and it is but just. My work is to kill. I should not have stopped²⁰ to play."

20. The Dog and the Hare

A DOG one day ran after a hare. But he could not catch her. Back he came to his master.

“What!” said his master, “do
5 you let that little thing beat you running?”

“Oh, master!” said the dog,
“think of the prize which each
of us had before him! I was run-
10 ning for a dinner. She was running
for her life. Do you wonder that
she beat me?”

21. The Wolf and the Lamb

ONE day a wolf was drinking
from a brook. He saw a stray
15 lamb not far away. He made up
his mind to eat it, but he wished
some excuse for doing so.

So he ran to her, saying, in a loud voice, "Is this your brook? Why are you making the water so muddy that I cannot drink it?"

"If you please, Mr. Wolf," said ⁵ the lamb, "I am not making it muddy where you are. See, you are above me in the brook. The water runs from you to me, not from me to you." 10

"Be that as it may," said the wolf, "you are the lamb that spoke ill of me last year."

"Oh, no!" said the poor little lamb in great fear. "It was some ¹⁵ other lamb and not I. I am not yet a year old."

"Oh! then it was your brother."

"But I have no brother, Mr. Wolf." 20

"Well," said the wolf, "it was

your father or some of your friends. That is the same thing. It is no use for you to make excuses. I am going to eat you anyway."

5 And so he did.

22. The Cat and the Mice

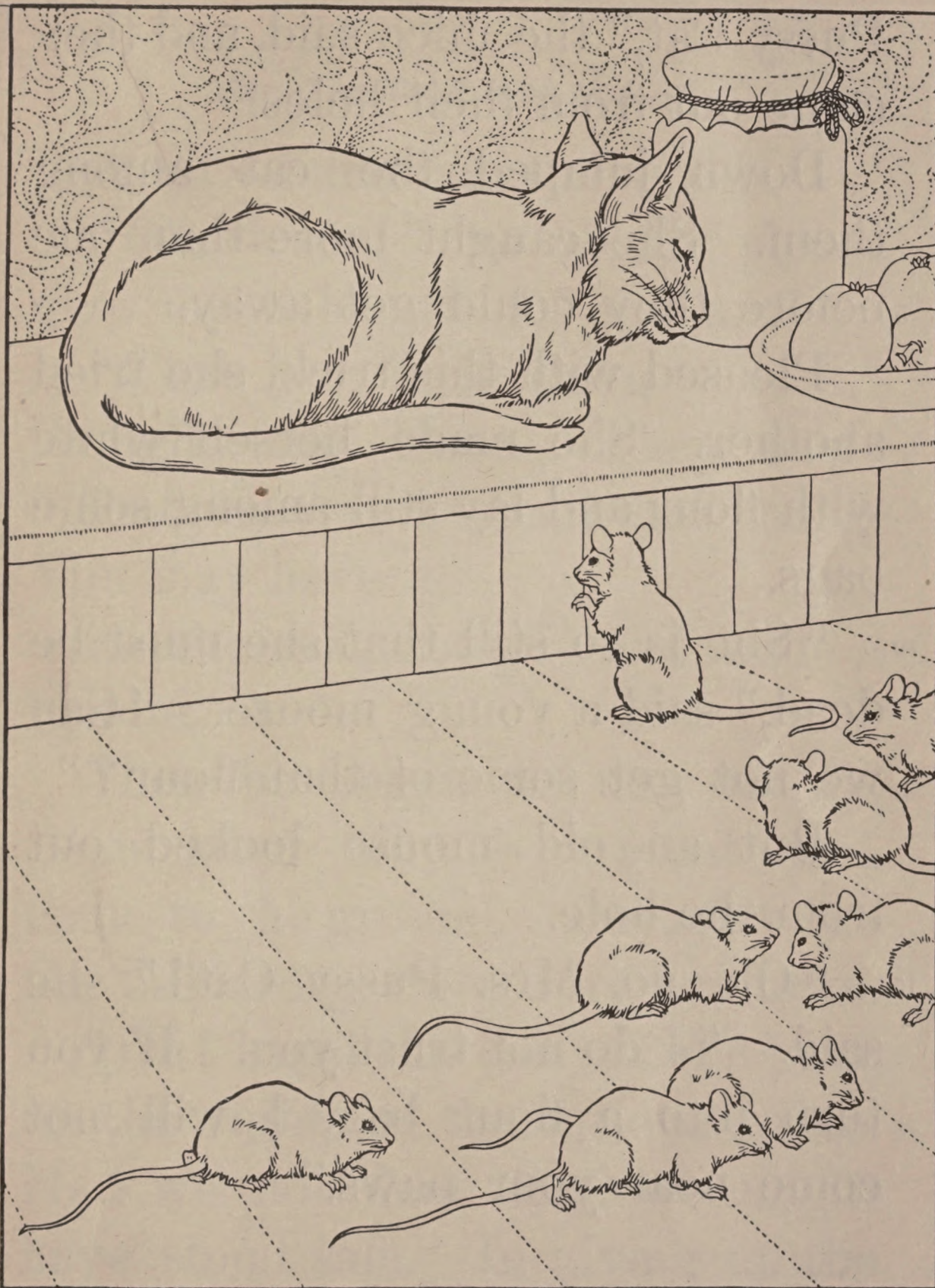
ONCE upon a time a house was full of mice. A cat came to make her home there.

At first she could catch the mice.
10 But by and by they began to keep out of reach of her paws. They stayed in their holes.

"This will never do," thought the cat. "I want my supper. I
15 must find some way to get those mice."

So she hung by her paws from a peg.

"Some one has hanged old Mrs.



THE ° CAT AND THE ° MICE °

Pussy Cat," the mice said, and they came out from their holes.

Down jumped the cat among them. She caught more than one
5 before they could get away.

Pleased with this trick, she tried another. She made herself white with flour and lay still among some bags.

10 "She is so still that she must be dead," said a young mouse. "Can we not get some of that flour?"

But an old mouse looked out from the hole.

15 "Oh, no, Mrs. Pussy Cat!" she said. "I do not trust you. If you turn into a flour bag, I will not come near your paws."

23. The Trees and the Ax

A MAN came into the woods.

“Oh, trees!” he said, “please give me a handle for my ax.”

“That is a little thing to ask,” thought the trees. They said: ⁵
“That ash tree is small and young. You may have it.”

So the man took it and made a handle.

Then he began to use his ax. ¹⁰
Blow after blow—a great tree came to the ground. One after one the tall strong trees were cut down.

“Oh!” said the oak. “We gave up the rights of the little ash tree. ¹⁵
Had we not done this, we might have stood safe. In giving up the rights of another, we gave a handle to be used against us.”

24. The Old Dog

A MAN had a dog which had led the hunt many a day. But now he was old. He could not run fast and his teeth were giving way.

5 One day he was in the field with his master. He caught a hare but he could not hold her. His master beat him for letting her get away.

“Master,” said the poor old dog,
10 “as long as I could, I caught and held your game. To-day it is power and not will which I want. Do not beat me for what I am. Be kind to me for the sake of what I
15 was.”

25. The Fox and the Lion

“WHAT is the lion, mother?” asked a little fox. It had never seen one.

“The lion is the king of beasts, my child,” said the mother. “He is great and strong. With one blow of his paw he can kill a man.”

5

From that day the little fox was in great fear of the lion.

One day it was at play in the woods. It heard a roar — the roar of a great lion. On he came down¹⁰ the path.

The little fox was so frightened that it got behind a tree.

“What a fearful beast!” it thought. “How he roars and¹⁵ beats the earth! I would not go near him for the world.”

The next day the fox was again in the woods. Again the lion came by. The fox was frightened, but²⁰ not so much as before.

“The lion is great and strong,” it said. “But he did not try to harm me before. This time I will not run away.”

5 So it did not hide. It walked on down the path.

Once again it was in the woods and the lion came. This time it was not frightened at all.

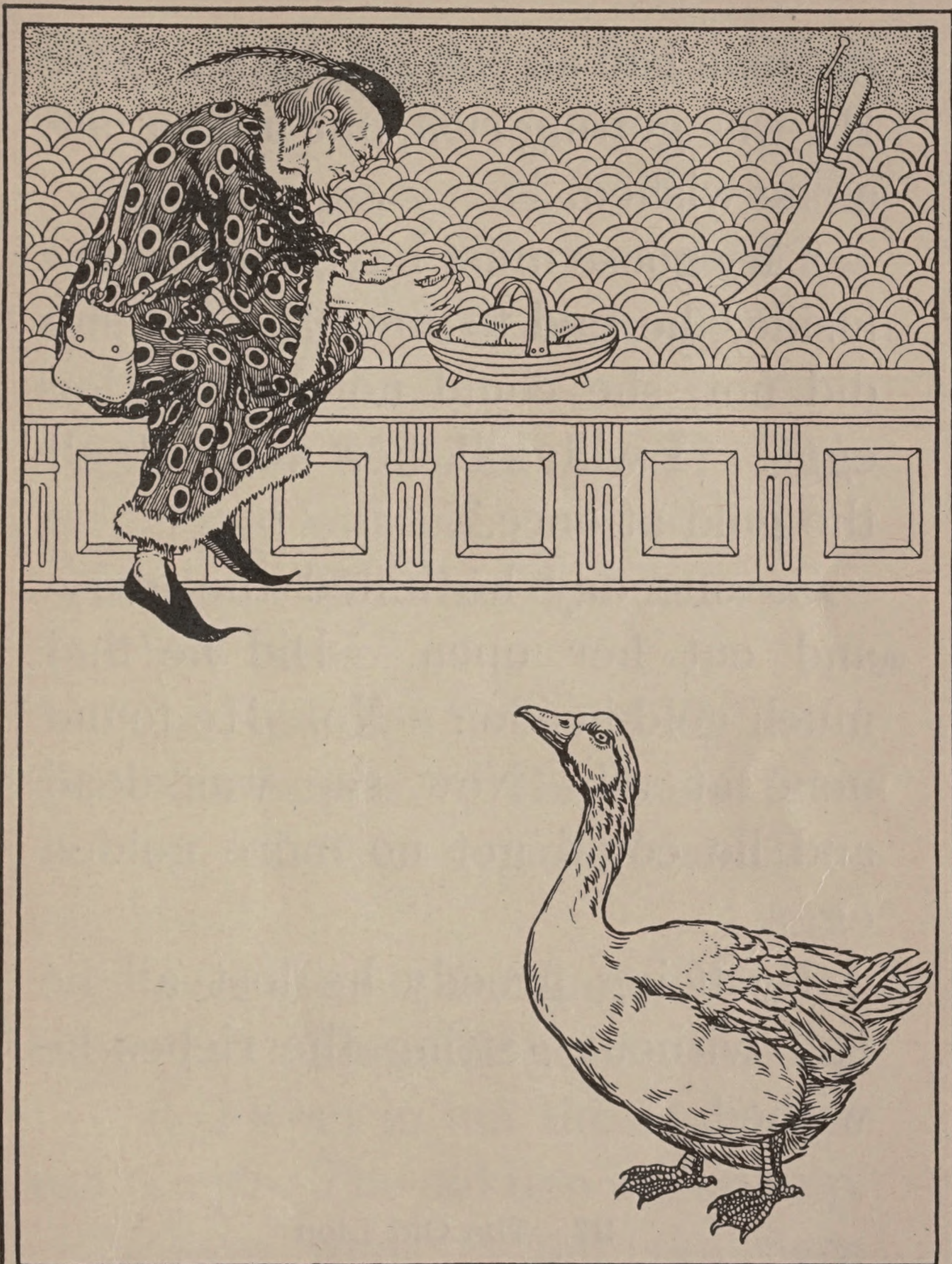
10 “There is that lion again,” it said. “I wonder why he roars so loud. I will ask him.”

So it went up to the great beast and said, “Mr. Lion, why are you
15 roaring so ?”

26. The Goose that laid Golden Eggs

A MAN once had a wonderful goose. She laid every day a golden egg.

Just think of that! Each day



THE  MAN AND HIS GOOSE.  

the man had an egg of shining gold. He was getting rich, but not so fast as he wished.

“My goose must have much gold ⁵inside,” he said to himself. “If she did not, she could not lay golden eggs. I will kill her and get all the gold at once.”

So one day he killed the goose ¹⁰and cut her open. Did he find much gold inside? No. He found none at all. Now she was dead and he could get no more golden eggs.

¹⁵ By being greedy he lost all he had without getting the riches he wished.

27. The Old Lion

ONCE upon a time a lion lived in a den. When he was young, he

went out in the woods and hunted for food.

But he grew old. His teeth were not sharp and he could not run fast. He could no longer live ⁵ by hunting.

How was he to get food? This is the way he took.

He lay still in his den and spoke in a low voice. 10

“The old lion is very ill,” said the other beasts. “He cannot hurt us now. Let us go into his den to see him.”

A wolf went in but the wolf never ¹⁵ came out. The old lion ate him up.

A dog went in but the dog never came out. The old lion ate him up.

A hare went in but the hare never came out. The old lion ate ²⁰ him up.

By and by came a fox. He stood at the mouth of the den and asked, "How are you to-day, Mr. Lion?"

"Come in, come in and see," said
5 the lion. "Why do you stand so far away?"

The fox did not say one word. He stood looking at the ground.

"Walk in, friend fox," said the
10 lion again.

"Ah! no, thank you," said the fox. "I see many footprints going into your den. I do not see the prints of any feet that have come
15 out. Such a path is not safe."

28. The Lark and her Young

A LARK made her nest in a wheat field. There she laid her eggs. Soon she had a nest full of little larks.



THE LARK AND HER YOUNG ONES.

How hard the mother bird had to work ! She flew here and there to get food for her hungry young ones.

5 Every day they grew larger and stronger. The wheat, too, was growing every day. Soon it would be ripe. Then the men would come to cut it.

10 Each morning the mother lark said : "Listen to all that is said in the field to-day, my dears. When I come home, tell me what you have heard."

15 One night she found her little ones in great fear.

"Mother, mother !" they chirped.
"The farmer came here to-day with his son. He says this wheat is ripe.
20 He sent for his friends to come to-morrow and help cut it. We can-

not fly. We shall be caught! We shall be killed!"

"Do not be frightened," said the wise old lark. "You are still safe. If the farmer trusts to his friends, ⁵ the grain will not be cut to-morrow. Eat your supper and be still."

The next morning she said: "Watch for the farmer to-day, my dears. Be sure to tell me what he ¹⁰ says."

Then away she flew for food.

When she came back, her little ones chirped: "Mother, the farmer has been here again. He stayed a ¹⁵ long time, but his friends did not come. He sent his son to ask his cousins to come to-morrow. What shall we do?"

"We may stay here a while ²⁰ longer," said the mother lark.

“His friends did not come to-day. Nor will his cousins come to-morrow. They have their own work on their hands. Sleep now
5 and do not fear.”

The next morning she again flew away to get food. But first she said, “Do not fail to tell me all you hear to-day.”

10 That night the young larks chirped: “Mother, the farmer was here again this morning with his son. But none of his cousins came.”

15 “What did he say?” asked the old lark.

“He said: ‘Son, we will not trust to others any longer. The best way to get a thing done is to do it
20 oneself. You and I will come to-morrow and cut this wheat.’”

“Oh! now we must go,” said the mother lark. “When a man takes his work in his own hands, it is sure to be done. In the morning you must try your wings, and we will ⁵ leave this field.”

The next morning the little larks tried their wings. They flew to the end of the field. There they saw the farmer and his son. They ¹⁰ were working with a will.

That night the wheat was all cut.
Self-help is the best help.

29. The Two Frogs

Two frogs once lived in the same pond. There came a warm sum-¹⁵ mer and all the water was dried up.

So the frogs left that pond and set out to find a new home. They came to a deep well.

“Here is water at last,” said one.
“Let us leap in and make this our home.”

“Stay awhile,” said the other
5 frog. “Let us look before we leap.
This well is very deep. What if
the water in it should fail? How
could we get out? Let us not go
into a place from which we see no
10 way to come out.”

30. The Fox and the Goat

THE wise frog looked before he
leaped. Let me tell you about a
silly goat that leaped before she
looked.

15 A fox one day fell into a well.
The water was not very deep, but
the walls were high. He tried in
vain to get out.

After a while a goat came to the



THE · FOX AND THE · GOAT.

well. She thought the fox had gone down there to drink.

“Is that water good?” she asked.

“Good!” said the fox. “It is
5 the best water that ever I drank.
Come down and try it.”

Down jumped the silly goat.

“Drink all that you wish,” said
the fox.

10 He leaped upon the goat’s back,
and so climbed out of the well.
The goat drank, and then she, too,
tried to get out. But she could
not climb the walls.

15 “Come here, friend fox, and help
me out,” she said.

The fox only laughed.

“Silly goat!” he said. “You
should not have gone in till you
20 saw a way to come out. One should
always look before he leaps.”

Away ran the fox. The poor goat was left to get out when and how she could.

31. The Thirsty Crow

A CROW was one day very thirsty. For a long time he looked in vain ⁵ for water.

At last he saw a pitcher which some men had left in a field. He flew to it, and found that it held water. 10

But there was only a little in the pitcher and the mouth was small. The thirsty crow tried and tried to reach the water. All in vain.

“If I break the pitcher, I may ¹⁵ lose all the water,” he said to himself. “If I turn it over, then, too, it will be lost. What shall I do?”

He thought and thought. At last he thought of a way.

He took up some small stones in his bill. These he dropped one by one into the pitcher. They made the water rise till he could reach it.

He drank as much as he wished.

“Caw! caw! I thank my wits for saving my life,” he said as he flew away.

32. The Oak and the Reeds

A GREAT oak grew by a river. Its roots were deep in the earth, its branches were high in the air.

“How tall and strong I am!” said the tree. “The wind may blow, but I stand fast. See the poor little reeds at my feet. They bend if the wind blows at all.



THE · CROW AND THE · PITCHER.

If we have a storm, they will be laid low."

That night there was a storm. The wind came against the great
5 oak. It tried to stand fast, but in vain. Down it came, root and branch.

The next morning there it lay on the ground. The little reeds
10 stood straight and tall.

"How is this?" asked the tree. "I, the great strong oak, am laid low by the storm, while you, poor little reeds, are safe."

15 "We knew that the wind is stronger than we are," said the reeds. "So we bent down and let it pass by. When it was gone, we rose safe. You did not give way
20 to the wind. You would not bend and so you had to break."

33. The Field Mouse and the Town Mouse

A FIELD mouse asked a friend from town to come to see him. One pleasant day here came the friend.

For dinner the field mouse had ⁵ his best food. There were some roots and corn. The town mouse ate a little.

Then he said, "My poor friend, why do you stay in this field? ¹⁰ Here you live in a hole in the ground. You have no better food than the ants.

"Now I live in a big house in town. I have all kinds of good ¹⁵ things to eat. Come and go home with me."

"Thank you, that I will," said the field mouse.

They set out to town together. When they got there, both were very hungry.

“Now for a feast!” said the town
5 mouse.

He showed his friend a table set with food. There was bread and meat. Best of all, there was a piece of cheese.

10 “You are right,” said the field mouse. “Your home is better far than mine. This is food for a king.”

But they had not time to get
15 a bite of the cheese. The door opened, and in came a girl. The mice ran to hide in a hole.

After a while the girl went away. Out came the hungry mice.

20 But before they got to the table the door opened again. Here came



THE COUNTRY-MOUSE AND THE CITY-MOUSE.

a boy with his dog. In great fear the poor, hungry mice ran again to hide.

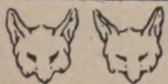
From their hole they watched the boy eat bread and meat and cheese. The sight made them more hungry than ever.

“Well, friend,” said the field mouse at last, “I am going back to my home in the field. There I eat my corn and roots in peace. That is better than your good food in fear and danger.”

34. The Fox that lost his Tail

ONE day a fox ran into a trap. At first it seemed that he would lose his life.

At last he got out. But his tail was caught fast. The trap cut it off.



THE · FOX · WITHOUT · A · TAIL ·



On his way home the fox thought how the others would laugh at him.

“A fox without a tail!” he said.
5 “Who ever heard of such a one?”

He went home and placed himself with his back to a tree.

“Listen, friends,” he said. “Of what use are our long, large tails?
10 If we creep through a hole, they hang behind. If we run from the hunter, they are behind us for the dogs to catch. Men kill us to get our tails. They do us more harm
15 than good. Let us cut them off.”

“You say well,” said some of the foxes. “Your plan is wise.”

But a sly old fox looked well at him.

20 Then he said : “My friend, I see that you have lost your own tail.

That is why you wish us to be without ours. If you had yours on, I think you would not care so much to have ours off."

35. The Fir Tree and the Bramble

A FIR TREE looked down on a ⁵ bramble.

"Poor thing!" he said. "You are good for nothing. I am tall and strong and much prized by men."

But the bramble said: "I am ¹⁰ content with my low place. See! here comes a man with his ax to cut you down. Do you not wish that you were a bramble and not a fir tree?"

15

36. The Vain Jackdaw

A JACKDAW one day found some feathers which a peacock had dropped. These he stuck under

his wings. Then he turned his back on the other jackdaws and went to the peacocks.

“I am one of you,” he said.

5 “Ah, no! You are no peacock,” said the peacocks. “But these are our feathers.”

They fell upon the vain jackdaw and pulled off their feathers one by
10 one. With them they pulled out many of his own.

The jackdaw now went back to his old friends. But they drove him away.

15 “Had you been true to us,” said one of them, “we would have been true to you. But you tried to be a peacock when you were nothing but a jackdaw. Now neither jack-
20 daws nor peacocks wish to have anything to do with you.”



THE JACKDAW AND THE PEACOCKS.

37. The Tortoise and the Eagle

A TORTOISE was one day creeping about in the sunshine.

“What a hard life is mine!” she said. “I creep on the earth. The
5 birds go here and there in the air. Oh! I wish I could fly!”

An eagle was passing and heard her wish.

“What will you give me,” he
10 asked, “to teach you?”

“I will give you all my riches,” said the tortoise.

“Good,” said the eagle. “I will take you in my claws and fly up
15 with you. Then you can fly down.”

Up, high up, he flew among the clouds.

“Now,” said he, “I will let you go. Fly down as I do.”



THE TORTOISE AND THE EAGLE.

He let go the tortoise and came down on his broad wings. But the tortoise was not able to fly, for she had no wings. Down, down
5 she fell to the earth and was almost killed.

“Ah!” she said. “Why did I not stay where I belonged? I was made to creep on the earth.
10 What had I to do with wings and clouds?”

38. The Hare and the Tortoise

You have just heard about the silly tortoise that tried to fly.

Now let me tell you about a
15 wise tortoise. She said to herself:
“I was made to creep on the ground. So I will do that as well as I can and be content.”

One day she was plodding on.
Up behind her ran a hare.

He stopped and said: "Good morning, friend tortoise. How slow you are! Do you not wish ⁵ you could run like me?"

"You can run fast, I know," said the tortoise. "But I think I could beat you in a race."

"Beat me in a race!" cried the ¹⁰ hare. "You! Just try and see."

"Very well," said the tortoise.

They called the fox to be judge of the race.

"Start here," he said. "Run ¹⁵ across those three fields to the great oak tree. Now, one, two, three, — go!"

At the word both started. Away went the hare like the wind. On ²⁰ plodded the tortoise.

The hare ran across one field. Then he looked back. The tortoise was not to be seen.

“I’ll stop and get some of this
5 sweet grass,” he said. “Then I’ll rest awhile. I have time enough and to spare. I wish friend tortoise to see me win the race.”

So he ate some grass, and lay
10 down to rest. He fell asleep.

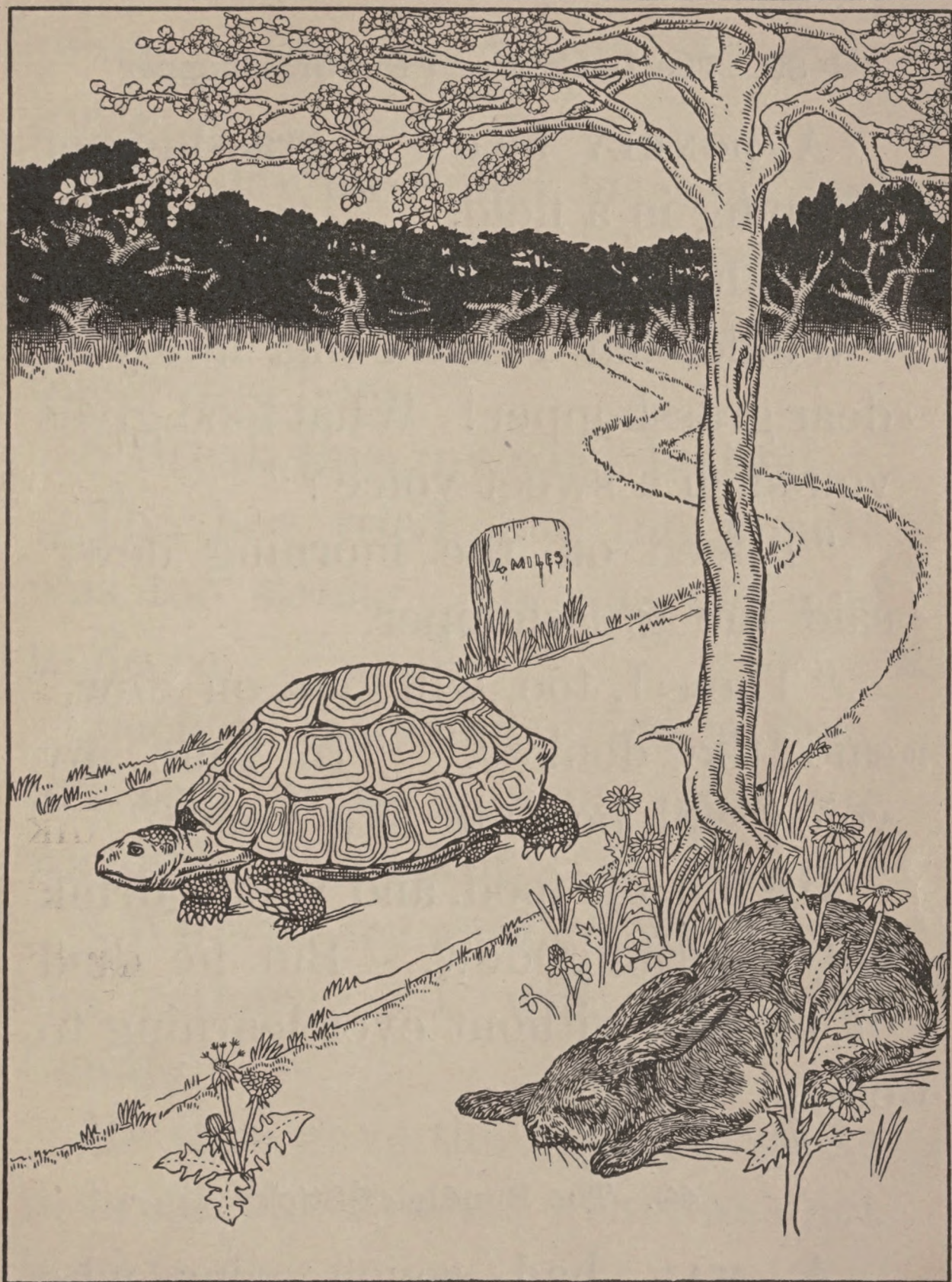
When he waked, he looked up and down the road. No tortoise did he see.

On he went to the oak tree.

15 There was the tortoise!

She had plodded on while he rested, and had passed him while he was sleeping. So she was first in the race.

20 “Ah, ah!” laughed the fox.
“Slow and steady wins in the end.”



 THE HARE AND THE TORTOISE

39. The Donkey and the Grasshopper

A DONKEY heard a grasshopper chirping in a field.

“What sweet music!” he cried.

“Would that I could sing like you,
5 dear grasshopper! What food gives
you such a sweet voice?”

“I feed on the morning dew,”
said the grasshopper.

“Then I, too, will live on dew,”
10 said the donkey. “In time my
voice will become like yours.”

He left his food, and would drink
only morning dew. But he died
of hunger without ever learning to
15 chirp.

40. The Bundle of Sticks

A MAN had seven sons who
quarreled much with one another.
He often begged them to live in

peace. But his words did little good.

One day he called his sons and showed them seven sticks tied together. He handed this bundle to ⁵ one of the boys.

“Break this, my son,” he said.

The boy tried, but the bundle was too strong. He was not able to do so. 10

Each of the others tried in turn, but each tried in vain. Not one was able to break it.

“We will try another way,” said the father. “I will untie the ¹⁵ bundle.”

He then gave the boys the sticks to break one by one. This was not hard to do.

Then the father said: “My sons, ²⁰ you are strong, like the sticks,

when you are together. But, like them, you are weak when each is by himself and for himself."

41. The Crab and its Mother

A CRAB said to her son: "Why
5 do you walk so to one side, my dear? It looks far better to go straight forward."

"Well, mother," said the young crab. "If you will show me the
10 straight way, I will walk in it."

The mother tried to go straight forward. But she went first to the left, then to the right. At last she gave up.

15 "Ah!" said her son. "When you learn to walk straight, you can teach me."

42. The Farmer and the Stork

A FARMER had wheat in a field. One day he set some nets there.

“I will catch the cranes which come to eat my grain,” he said.

The next morning he went to ⁵ look at his nets. There were some cranes, and with them was caught a stork.

“Ah, you thieves,” said the farmer, “I am glad you are caught.¹⁰ Now I will kill you all.”

“Please do not kill me,” said the stork. “Cranes are thieves, I know. But look at my feathers. You can see that I am no crane.¹⁵ I am a stork; and storks, you know, are the best of birds.”

“All that you say may be true,” said the farmer. “But this I know.

You have been caught with thieves,
with thieves you must die.”

43. The Wolf and the Goat

ONE day a goat was feeding at
the top of a high rock.

5 Down below was a wolf. He
wished to catch the goat for his
dinner, but he could not climb the
rock.

So he called out: “My dear friend,
10 do not stand on that rock. I fear
that you will fall. Why do you
stay up there? The grass down
here is much better. Come down
and feed here.”

15 “Thank you, this grass is good
enough for me,” said the goat. “I
will stay where I am. You ask me
to come down for the sake of your
dinner, not of mine.”

44. The Wolf with the Bone in his Throat

A WOLF was one day eating a lamb which he had killed. A bone stuck in his throat and gave him great pain. He ran howling through the woods.

5

“Why do you howl so?” asked a crane.

“Dear friend,” said the wolf, “there is a bone stuck in my throat. It gives me great pain. Can you¹⁰ not get it out with your long bill?”

He opened his mouth. What a great red throat he had! What big sharp teeth! The crane drew back.

“I do not wish to put my head¹⁵ in a wolf’s mouth,” he thought.

But the wolf said, “Come, I am in great pain. I will pay you well.”

So the crane put his head down



THE WOLF AND THE CRANE.

the wolf's throat. With his long bill he pulled out the bone.

"Here is the bone," he said.

"Now, where is my pay?"

"Pay!" said the wolf. "Was it ⁵ not pay enough that I did not bite off your head when it was in my mouth? Be off, or I will eat you now."

"Ah," said the crane, running ¹⁰ away, "I was a silly crane ever to trust a wolf."

45. The Frog and the Ox

"Oh, father," said a young frog to an old one, "I have just seen a great beast. It seemed as large as ¹⁵ a house. It has a long tail, and it has horns on its head."

Now the old frog was vain, and, as frogs go, he was large.

“Why, son, that is only the farmer’s ox,” he said. “After all, he is not so very big. I can with ease make myself as large as he.
5 Watch me.”

He took a deep breath and swelled himself up.

“Now I am as large as he, am I not?” he asked.

10 “Oh, no, father! You are not near so large,” said his son.

Again the old frog blew himself out.

“Is the ox as large as I am
15 now?” he asked.

“Oh, yes, father! He is larger, much larger.”

“See me now!” said the old frog.

20 He blew and swelled and swelled and blew — till he burst.

46. The Fox and the Stork

A FOX one day asked a stork to dinner. He was a rude fox, and he wished to play a trick on her. So he had nothing to eat but soup. This was served in a shallow dish. ⁵

The fox drank the soup with ease. The stork, with her long bill, could not drink from the shallow dish.

“Do eat, Mrs. Stork,” said the ¹⁰ fox. “I fear you do not like this soup.”

“It seems very good,” said the stork.

This was all that she said. But ¹⁵ she was as hungry at the end of the dinner as when it began.

A few days after, she asked the fox to dinner.



THE[®] FOX AND THE[®] STORK.

"I shall be happy to come," said the fox.

He came, and dinner was served. It was meat cut into little pieces. It was put in a deep pitcher with ⁵ a small mouth.

The stork's long bill could reach the meat. But the fox could get nothing at all. There he sat, cross and hungry. The stork laughed. ¹⁰

"I think you like my dinner as much as I did yours," she said. "Oh, Mr. Fox, do not be cross. You should never do to others what you are not willing to have ¹⁵ them do to you."

47. The Bees and the Drones

SOME bees made their nest in a hole in an oak tree. There they laid up much honey.

While they worked, the lazy drones buzzed about in the sunshine. When they were hungry, they wished to eat the honey.

5 “It is ours,” they said.

“No, it is not yours; it is ours,” said the bees.

At last they asked the wasp to judge between them.

10 “It will be hard to show who made this honey,” he said. “Bees are much like drones in size and color. Both bees and drones have been flying to and from this tree.

15 “Now let the bees work in one place and the drones in another. This honey shall belong to those who make some like it.”

The bees set to work at once.
20 From tree to flower, from flower to tree, they flew, making honey. The

drones buzzed about and did nothing.

“This shows who made the honey and who did not,” said the wasp. “It belongs to the bees.” ⁵

48. The Stag at the Lake

A STAG went down to a lake to drink. As he stood there, he looked at himself in the water.

“How strong and beautiful are my horns!” he said. “They are ¹⁰ like branches of a tree above my head. But my legs are very ugly. I wish that they were as beautiful as my horns!”

Just then a lion came up. He ¹⁵ made a spring at the stag which he wished for his dinner.

Off ran the stag. His legs would have carried him away safe, but he



THE STAG LOOKING INTO **THE WATER.**

caught his horns in the branches of a tree.

Before he could get free, the lion came up and caught him.

“Ah!” cried the stag. “I⁵ should have prized use more than beauty. The legs which I thought so ugly would have saved me. But the horns of which I was so vain have brought me to my death.”¹⁰

49. The Gourd and the Oak

A GOURD vine grew near an oak tree.

In the warm summer days the vine grew fast. It climbed around the oak. In a little while it reached¹⁵ the top of the tree.

Then the silly gourd vine grew vain.

“My leaves are larger than

yours," it said to the tree. "I bear beautiful yellow flowers. Look, too, at my fruit. It is much larger than yours.

5 "And how much the faster I grow! You have lived more years than I have days. Yet I am as tall as you."

"That is true," said the oak tree.
10 "Every summer I see a gourd vine grow tall and vain, like you. Every winter I see it fall and die.

"Soon the frost will lay you low. I shall stand here tall and strong as
15 ever."

50. The Raven and the Swan

A RAVEN saw a swan on a lake. He thought her white feathers much more beautiful than his black ones.

“No wonder she is white,” he said, “for she washes her feathers every day. If I do the same, I think I shall become as white as she. I’ll try.” 5

So he left his nest in the woods. He made his home beside the lake. In its waters he washed his feathers from morning till night.

But they stayed as black as ever.¹⁰ And he caught such a cold that he could hardly talk.

“Croak, croak!” he said. “I’ll go back home to the woods. Black feathers are pretty enough for me.¹⁵ Croak, croak!”

51. The Wounded Eagle

AN eagle was once flying through the air. A hunter took aim at him and shot him through the heart.

As he fell, he saw the arrow which had wounded him. It was winged with one of his own feathers.

5 “Ah!” he said. “This is a double pain. I must now die. My own wing feathered the arrow which kills me.”

52. The Cowardly Bat

ONCE upon a time there was a
10 fight between the birds and the beasts.

All things that fly and all that walk took part but the bat. He stayed out of the fight and looked
15 on.

At last he thought that the birds were about to win. He flew to join them.

“Go away,” said the birds. “You

have not been fighting with us. You are a beast. You are not a bird."

"Oh, yes! I am a bird," said the bat. "Just look at my wings." 5

But the beasts again began to fight. Now they seemed to have the best of it. The bat ran away from the birds and joined them.

"Go away," they said. "You 10 are a bird. You are not a beast."

"Oh, yes! I am a beast," said the bat. "Look at my feet. See my sharp teeth."

At last the birds and the beasts 15 made peace. But neither wished to own the cowardly bat.

When he came among the birds, they said: "Go away. You are a beast." 20

When he came among the beasts,

they said: "Go away. You are a bird."

So he flew away to hide.

To this day the bat hides in dark
5 places. He flies about only at night
when both birds and beasts are
sleeping.

53. The Man and the Lion

A MAN went out hunting. All
the beasts but the lion ran
10 away.

"I will fight," said the lion.

The man let fly an arrow.

"I send my messenger," he said.

"From him you may learn how
15 fearful I myself am."

The arrow stuck in the lion's side
and gave him great pain. He ran
away as fast as he could.

"Oh!" cried a fox. "Do not run

away so soon. Stay till the man comes.”

“No, indeed!” said the lion. “If I suffer so from the messenger, how can I stand the coming of the man 5 himself?”

54. How the Fox divided the Game

THE lion, the donkey, and the fox went hunting together. They took much game. When night came, they were all hungry. 10

“Let us have our supper now,” said the lion. “The donkey may divide our game.”

The donkey divided it into three equal parts. 15

“Take your choice,” said he.

“Donkey,” roared the lion, “are you my equal that you should have as much as I?”

Then he fell upon the donkey and killed him.

“Now,” said he to the fox, “do you divide our game.”

5 The fox divided it into two parts. In one he put all the game but a hare and a bird or two. These he laid on one side.

“Great king of beasts,” he said,
10 “this large heap is yours. The small one is mine.”

“Ah, friend,” said the lion, “how did you learn to divide so well?”

“How indeed?” said the fox.
15 “I learned it from the death of the donkey.”

55. The Two Pots

Two pots fell into the water. One was made of brass, the other was earthenware.

The brass pot said: "Here we are in the river together. Let us be friends."

"No, no!" said the earthen pot. "We are not equals, and only ⁵ equals make good friends. Do you keep as far from me as you can. I will not come near you. I fear you as much as I do the river. If you touch me, I shall ¹⁰ break."

56. The Lion's Share

A cow, a goat, a sheep, and a lion met and made friends.

"We will divide all our game," they said. 15

Not long after, the goat caught a stag in a net. He called in his friends, and asked the lion to divide it.

The lion said, "I will divide it into four equal parts."

"That is but right," said the others.

5 So the lion divided the stag.

Then he said, "The first part is mine because I am the judge. The next part is mine because I am the bravest. The next part is mine
10 because I am the strongest. As for the last part—I will kill any one who touches it."

57. The Wolf in the Sheep's Skin

A WOLF caught and ate many sheep from a flock. At last the
15 sheep feared him so that they were always on the lookout. Try as he would, the wolf could not come near.

What should he do to get his

dinner? He thought of this plan.

He put over him the skin of a sheep which he had killed. Thus dressed he drew near the flock. 5

The shepherd was sleeping. The flock thought the wolf was a stray sheep come to join it.

"I will say baa like the sheep," said the wolf to himself. 10

He opened his mouth and tried to say "baa, baa!" but instead he gave a howl.

The sheep ran away and the shepherd started up. The wolf in 15 the sheep's skin could not run fast. He was soon caught and killed.

"Ah!" said the shepherd, "it is hard to act a part and not over-act it." 20

58. The Oxen and the Axletrees

A WAGON was being pulled over a bad road by two oxen. The axletrees groaned and cried.

“Why do you cry out so?”
5 asked the oxen. “It is we who do the work. We, not you, have right to cry and groan.”

59. The Fox and the Crow

A CROW found a piece of cheese. She flew into a tall tree and was
10 just beginning her feast.

A hungry fox saw her and longed for the cheese.

“And I’ll have it, too, as sure as I am a fox,” he said.

15 He went under the tree and said: “I saw a crow fly by here not long ago. She is indeed a beautiful bird. How broad are



THE · FOX AND THE · CROW.

her wings! How bright are her eyes! How fair are her feathers!

“But I have never heard her sing. Is she dumb, I wonder?
5 If she had a voice equal to her beauty, she would be the queen of birds.”

The silly crow was pleased with all this praise. She wished to
10 show that her voice was equal to her beauty.

“Caw, caw, caw!” she cried.

When she opened her bill to say “caw,” — down dropped the cheese.
15 The sly fox snapped it up and walked away.

“My good crow,” he said, “your voice may be all right, but your wits are wanting.”

60. Two Men and the Bear

Two men once said that they would travel together and help each other.

They had not gone far before they saw a great bear. 5

One of the men said, "Together we can kill it."

But the other man ran and climbed a small tree. The first man had now no time to get away.¹⁰ What did he do?

Why, he fell upon his face. He lay still as if he were dead. It is said that a bear will not eat a dead man. 15

The great bear came up and smelled the man. But he lay quite still. So it left him and went away.

Then the other came down from the tree.

“My friend,” he said, “the bear seemed to whisper in your ear. 5 What did it say to you?”

“It gave me some good advice,” said the man. “It told me never to travel with one who leaves me when danger comes.”

61. The Bee that wished a Sting

10 ONE summer a bee laid up some beautiful honey. The best of it all she carried to Jupiter.

He was much pleased with it.

“Ask what you will,” he said to 15 the bee, “and you shall have your wish.”

Not long before a boy had robbed the bee of some honey. Now she thought of this.

“Oh, Jupiter, great master,” she said, “give me a sting. Let its wound be fatal. Then neither man nor beast will rob me.”

Jupiter was sorry to hear her ⁵ make such a wish.

“I must keep my word,” he said. “So I will give you the sting for which you ask. Its wound shall be fatal — not to others, but to you.¹⁰ You shall be able to hurt any one who robs you. But you shall lose your life with your sting.”

Is it not with men as with the bee? Ill will does most harm to ¹⁵ him who acts from it.

62. The Cat's Paws

A MONKEY and a cat lived in the same house.

One day they were sitting beside

the fire. They saw some chestnuts put there to roast.

“Come,” said the sly monkey, “let us feast on these nuts. You
5 are very clever, Mrs. Pussy. I am sure that you can get some out. Put in a paw and try.”

The cat was pleased with his praise. She put her paw in the
10 fire and pulled out a chestnut. But in doing so she was burned.

“Well done! well done!” cried the monkey. “What fine paws you have! They are just like
15 hands. I am sure you can get all the nuts. Then what a feast we shall have!”

One by one, the cat pulled out the nuts, burning her paw each
20 time. Then she turned to begin the feast.

But while she was getting them out of the fire, the monkey was eating.

Pussy was just in time to see him eat the last nut. So she had ⁵ only her burned paws for her pains.

63. The Frogs and their King

ONCE there lived some frogs in a pond. They had a good home and all the food they wished. But ¹⁰ they were not content.

“Oh, that we had a king!” they said.

So they begged Jupiter to give them one. 15

“Well, here is a king,” he said, “a good one for you.” And he threw them a log.

Splish — splash! came King Log.



THE·FROGS·DESIRING·A·KING.

The frogs were frightened. They hid, some in the mud, some in the reeds.

For a long time not one would even look out. But King Log lay ⁵ still.

At last the frogs said, "He is sleeping."

One after one they came from their hiding places. They came ¹⁰ near him.

Then one jumped on his back and said, "Oh! This king is only a log."

So they went back to Jupiter. ¹⁵

"Give us a king that has life," they said.

Jupiter sent them an eel. It went in and out, and here and there. ²⁰

"But it is too small, and does

not look like a king," said the frogs.

Again they went back to Jupiter.

"Give us another king," they
5 said. "We wish one that can rule."

"Do you wish some one to rule you?" asked Jupiter. "That you shall have. Now go. I have lis-
10 tened to you for the last time."

Then he sent a stork to the pond.

"How great he is!" said the
frogs. "How tall! This is a king
15 indeed!"

King Stork stood still a little while. Then he put his long bill down into the water. Up it came with a frog which he ate. Another
20 and another he caught.

The frogs tried in vain to get

away. Go where they would, the stork came after them. Breakfast, dinner, and supper he ate frogs, till there was not one left in the pond.

5

How much better it would have been had they been content!

64. Hercules and the Lazy Man

A MAN was once going in his wagon over a bad road. The wheels stuck fast in the mud. The¹⁰ horses came to a standstill.

The man did not try at all to help himself.

“Hercules, great, strong Hercules!” he called. “Please come¹⁵ and help me.”

But Hercules said: “Lazy man! Help yourself. Urge on your horses. Put your own shoulder

to the wheel. Never call on another to help you till you have done all you can for yourself."

65. The Maid and her Milk Pail

THERE was once a milkmaid who
5 worked all day with good will.

"You have worked well," said her master. "You may have this great pail of milk for your own."

"Thank you," said the maid.

10 She set the pail upon her head and started to town.

"I will sell this milk," she said to herself, "and get some more eggs. I shall then have two hundred.

15 "These eggs will hatch out many chickens. I will feed my chickens well and sell them. They will bring enough to get me a new dress.

“What color shall it be? Let me see. Blue? No! Every milk-maid in the country has a blue dress. Green it shall be, and silk at that. How fine I shall look in⁵ it!

“I shall be too fine to speak to the other maids here. When they come near, I will not look at them. I will just toss my head, — so.”¹⁰

She gave her head a toss. Down came the milk pail. With her milk all her fine plans came to the ground.

66 The Man and the Satyr

A MAN and a satyr were once¹⁵ traveling together. A satyr, let me tell you, is said to live in the woods and to be as much like a beast as a man.

As they walked on together, the man put his hand to his mouth and blew on it.

“Why do you do that?” asked
5 the satyr.

“I blow on my hand to warm it,”
said the man.

On they went through the woods. After a while they stopped to get
10 dinner. The man spilled some hot soup and burned his hand. He put it to his mouth and blew on it.

“Why are you doing that?”
asked the satyr.

15 “I burned my hand. I am blowing on it to cool it,” said the man.

“Oh, oh!” said the satyr. “I must leave you. We cannot be friends any longer. I cannot trust
20 one who with the same breath blows cold and hot.”

67. The Miller, his Son, and their Donkey

A MILLER and his son one day started to town. They drove before them their donkey which they wished to sell. A little way down the road they met some girls. 5

“Look!” cried one of them. “Did you ever see such silly men as those? They go on foot behind the donkey. I would ride. Wouldn’t you?” 10

The old man heard the words.

“Get on the donkey and ride,” he said to his son.

The boy got on and rode while his father walked. 15

Soon they came to some old men.

“See there!” said one of them. “It is just as I was saying. No

one shows respect to the old these days. See that boy riding while his poor old father walks. Get down, you bad boy! Let your
5 father ride."

The old man helped his son to the ground. He himself got upon the donkey and rode. Behind him walked his son.

10 They had not gone far when they saw some women at a well.

"You lazy old man," cried two or three at once. "Do you ride and make that poor little boy walk?
15 Why, he can hardly keep up with you."

"Then he, too, shall ride," said the good-natured miller.

He took his son up behind him
20 on the donkey. They were now near town.

“Friend,” said a man, “is that donkey your own?”

“Oh, yes,” said the miller.

“One would not think so from the way you do,” said the man. 5

“Why, you two are better able to carry the little beast than he you.”

“We will please you if we can,” said the miller.

He and his son got off the don-10 key. They tied its legs together and hung it on a pole. So they tried to carry it across the bridge that led to town.

The donkey did not like this way 15 of being carried. It tried to free itself. At last it broke the pole. Down it fell into the river and was drowned.

The miller and his son turned 20 back and went home.

“See, my son,” said the miller.
“We tried to please every one,
and we pleased no one. And be-
sides we lost our donkey.”

WORD LIST

The four hundred common words included in this list are assumed to be known to the child who begins to read this book. The teacher will find this list useful for review and drill. It does not include regularly formed plurals, nor the past tenses and progressive forms of regular verbs.

a	ǎş	bënd	bŭt	cŭt
ā'ble	ǎsk	bënt	bŷ	dāy
à bout'	ǎt	běst	call	dēar
à cröss'	āte	bět'tēr	cāme	dēep
äft'ēr	à wāy'	bĭg	cǎn	dĭd
a gain	băck	bĭll	cǎr'rŷ	dọ
(à gĕn')	băd	bĭrd	căt	dọes
a gainst	bē	bĭte	cătch	dög
(à gĕnst')	bēat	blew (blū)	caught	dōne
āir	beaŭ'tī ful	blōw	claw	dōor
all	bě còme'	blūe	cloud	down
al'most	bēe	bōth	cold	drēss
ām	been (bĭn)	bōx	còl'or	drĭnk
à mòng'	bě fōre'	boy	còme	dröp
ăn	bĕg	brĕad	cōol	ēach
ănd	bě gǎn'	breāk	côrn	ēarth
ăn oth'ēr	bě gĭn'	brĭght	còuld	ēat
an y (ĕn'ŷ)	bě hĭnd'	brĭng	cow	ĕgg
an y thing	bě liēve'	brōke	crēep	ĕnd
(ĕn'ŷ thĭng)	bĕll	bròth'ēr	cröss	ĕv'ēr
äre	bě lōw'	brought	crŷ	ĕv'ēr ŷ

eye (ī)	gōne	hīş	light	nēar
fāil	gōōd	hōld	like	nēck
fall	gōt	hōme	līst'en	nēst
fār	grāss	hōrse	līt'tle	nēv'ēr
fāth'ēr	greāt	house	līve	nēxt
fāst	grēen	how	lōng	nīght
fēar	grew (gru)	hūn'grŷ	lōok	nō
fēel	ground	hūrt	lōst	nōne
fēll	grōw	ī	loud	nōr
fiēld	hād	īf	lōve	nōrth
fīnd	hānd	īll	lōw	nōt
fīne	hāp'pŷ	īn	māde	nōth'īng
fīre	hārd	īn'sīde	māke	now
fīrst	hārm	īn'to	mān	of (ōv)
flew (flū)	hāş	īş	man y	ōff
flow'ēr	hāt	īt	(mēn'y)	ōh
flŷ	hāve	jūmp	māy	ōld
fōōd	hāy	jūst	mē	ōn
fōr	hē	kēep	mēet	once(wūns)
found	hēad	kīnd	mēn	one (wūn)
frēe	hēar	knōck	mēt	ōn'lŷ
friēnd	hēard	knōw	mīlk	ō'pen
frōm	heärt	lānd	mīss	ōr
full	hēat	lārge	mōre	ōth'ēr
fūn	hēld	lāst	mōrn'īng	our
gāve	hēlp	lāugh	mōth'ēr	out
gēt	hēr	lāy	Mr.	ō'vēr
gīrl	hēre	lēaf	Mrs.	ōwn
gīve	hīde	lēarn	mūch	paw
glād	hīgh	lēave	mūst	plāy
gō	hīm	lēt	mŷ	plēas'ant

plēase	sēnd	sūn'shīne	tīme	wēnt
pōor	shāll	sure(shur)	tō	wēre
pret ty	shārp	swēet	tō-dāy'	whət
(prīt'ty)	shē	swīm	tō gēth'ēr	whēn
put	shēep	tāke	tō-nīght'	whēre
rān	shīne	tāl	tōō	whīch
rēach	shōuld	tāl	tōōk	whīle
rēd	shōw	tēach	trēe	whīte
rēst	sīck	tēeth	trūe	whō
rīde	sīng	tēll	trȳ	whȳ
rīpe	sīt	thān	tūrn	wīll
rīse	slēep	thānk	twō	wīnd
rōde	slōw	thāt	ūn'dēr	wīng
rōot	smāl	thē	ūp	wīn'tēr
rōse	sō	thēir	ūp ōn'	wīsh
rough	sōft	thēm	ūs	wīth
(rūf)	sōme	thēn	ūse	wīth out'
round	sōme'thīng	thēre	vēr'y	wōn'dēr
rūn	sōme'tīmes	thēsē	voīce	wōōds
sāfe	sōn	thēy	wāke	word
said (sēd)	sōōn	thīng	wāl	(wūrd)
sāng	sprīng	thīnk	wānt	work
sāt	stāy	thīs	wārm	(wūr)
sāve	stīll	thōse	wās	wōuld
saw	stōne	thōught	wātch	yēar
sāy	stōōd	thrēe	wā'tēr	yēs
sēe	strōng	threw	wāy	yōū
sēen	sūch	(thrū)	wē	yōūng
sēlf	sūm'mēr	thrōw	wēak	yōūr
sēlves	sūn	tīll	wēll	

FABLE WORD LIST

This list includes all words in the fables, except those
contained in the Word List on pages 121–123.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1. strǒng'ěr
līfe
clōak
quar'rēl
gēn'tle | worth
(wūrth)

6. mīçe
hōlēš
plān
mouse
hǎng | 10. grāss'hōp pēr
ānt
dānce
pāssed
spāre |
| 2. cāne
mēd'ĩ çīne
dōc'tor
like'lỹ | 7. drowned
dōve
āim | 11. fōx
vīne
grāpe
sour
grēed'ỹ |
| 3. pōnd
crōak
frōg
killed
dēath | dān'gēr
būzz
stūng | 12. nēt
rīv'ēr
fīsh
wīše |
| 4. blīnd
rōad
lāme
hōb'ble
town | 8. mān'gēr
snārl
ōx
bow-wow
sēlf'ish | 13. hūnt'ēr
hūnt
hūn'drēd
trīck
pūss'ỹ |
| 5. cōck
grāin
pēarl | 9. wōod'pēck ěr
pēa'cōck
vāin
fēath'ěr | 14. lī'ōn
dēn
bēast |

rōar	21. brōōk	rīch
rōpe	mīnd	27. lōng'ēr
15. sūp'pēr	ěx cūse'	āh
piēce	mūd'dỹ	fōot
mouth	spōke	prīnt
lōok'ing glāss	22. hūng	fēet
snāpped	pēg	28. lār̄k
16. cāre	flour	whēat
wolf	bāg	lār̄g'ēr
lāmb	dēad	chīrped
ōf'ten	trūst	fārm'ēr
truth	23. hān'dle	coŭs'ins ₁
17. kīd	āx	29. sāmē
ā bŭse'	āsh	dried
sīl'ly	rīghts	lēap
18. treas'ūre	24. lēd	plāce
(trēzh)	gāme	30. gōat
vīne'yard	pow'ēr	wāll
gōld	sāke	drānk
spāde	25. kīng	clīmbēd
plow	pāth	lēft
19. strāyed	frīght'ened	31. crōw
mŭ'sic	fēar'ful	thīrst'ỹ
tūne	world	pīтч'ēr
dīn'nēr	(wŭrld)	caw
stōpped	26. wōn'dēr ful	wīts
20. hāre	gōōse	32. ōak
mās'tēr	lāid	brānch'ēs ₁
prīze	gōld'en	rēeds ₁

	stôrm	wĭn	ēase
	strāight	stěad'ŷ	swĕlled
33.	sĕt	39. dŏn'keŷ	bŭrst
	fĕast	fĕed	46. rŭde
	tā'ble	dew (dū)	soup
	chĕeŝe	hŭn'gĕr	sĕrved
	pĕace	40. sĕv'en	shāl'lŏw
34.	trăp	stĭcks	dĭsh
	sĕemed	tĭed	47. drŏneŝ
	tāil	bŭn'dle	lā'zŷ
	through	ŭn tĭe'	wasp
	slŷ	41. crăb	bĕ twĕen'
35.	fĭr	sĭde	sĭze
	brăm'ble	fŏr'ward	48. stăg
	cŏn tĕnt'	42. crāne	lāke
36.	jăck'daw	stôrk	hŏrnŝ
	stŭck	thiĕveŝ	beaŭ'tŷ
	pulled	dĭe	ŭg'ly
	drŏve	43. tŏp	49. gŏurd
	nĕi'thĕr	rŏck	fruit
37.	tŏr'toĭse'	stănd	făst'ĕr
	mĭne	ĕ nough'	frŏst
	ĕa'gle	(nŭf)	50. rāv'en
	broad	44. bŏne	swan
	bĕ lŏnged'	thrŏat	wăsh'ĕŝ
38.	plŏd'dĭng	pāin	bĕ sĭde'
	rāce	howl	hărd'ly
	jŭdge	pāy	51. shŏt
	stărt	45. brĕath	ăr'rŏw

wound'ed	ăct	splīsh splăsh
doũ'ble	58. fâir	hīd
52. cow'ard lŷ	dũmb	ēel
băt	quēen	rũle
fight	prāise	brēak fast
pärt	59. Jū'pī tēr	64. whēel
join	rōb	mũd
därk	stīng	Hēr'cũ lēs
53. mēs'sen ġēr	fā'tal	ũrge
īn dēed'	sör'ry	shōul'dēr
sũf'fēr	60. mōn'key	65. māid
54. dī vīde'	chēst'nũts	pāil
ē'qual	rōast	sēll
choīce	nũt	hătch
hēap	clēv'ēr	sīlk
55. pōt	bũrn	tōss
brāss	61. wăg'ōn	66. sâ'tŷr
ēarth'en wāre	ōx'en	spilled
toũch	ăx'le trēe	hōt
56. shāre	grōan	67. mīll'ēr
bē caũse'	62. trāv'el	rē spēct'
brāv'ēst	fāce	wom'en
strōng'ēst	smēll	(wīm)
57. flōck	whīs'pēr	gōod nāt'ũred
skīn	ăd vīce'	pōle
shēp'hērd	63. lōg	brīdge
bāa		

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